

CLEAN AIR ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1977

[Public Law 95-95; Approved on August 7, 1977]

[As amended by Public Law 97-375, Enacted December 21, 1982]

【Currency: This publication is a compilation of the text of Public Law 95-95. It was last amended by the public law listed in the As Amended Through note above and below at the bottom of each page of the pdf version and reflects current law through the date of the enactment of the public law listed at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/comps/>】

【Note: While this publication does not represent an official version of any Federal statute, substantial efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of its contents. The official version of Federal law is found in the United States Statutes at Large and in the United States Code. The legal effect to be given to the Statutes at Large and the United States Code is established by statute (1 U.S.C. 112, 204).】

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TRAINING

SEC. 101. (a)

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(c) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall consult with the House Committee on Science and Technology on the environmental and atmospheric research, development, and demonstration aspects of this Act. In addition, the reports and studies required by this Act that relate to research, development, and demonstration issues shall be transmitted to the Committee on Science and Technology at the same time they are made available to other committees of the Congress.

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COMPLIANCE ORDERS (INCLUDING COAL CONVERSION)

SEC. 112. (a)

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(b)(1) Section 119 of such Act is hereby repealed. All references to such section 119 or subsections thereof in section 2 of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-319) or any amendment thereto, or any subsequent enactment which supersedes such Act, shall be construed to refer to section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act and to paragraph (5) thereof in particular. Any certification or notification required to be given by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under section 2 of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 or any amendment thereto, or any subsequent enactment which supersedes such Act, shall be given only when the Governor of the State in which is located the source to which the proposed

order under section 113(d)(5) of the Clean Air Act is to be issued gives his prior written concurrence.

(2) In the case of any major stationary source to which any requirement is applicable under section 113(d)(5)(B) of the Clean Air Act and for which certification is required under section 2 of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 or any amendment thereto, or any subsequent enactment which supersedes such Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall certify the date which he determines is the earliest date that such source will be able to comply with all such requirements. In the case of any plant or installation which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency determines (after consultation with the State) will not be subject to an order under section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act and for which certification is required under section 2 of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 or any amendment thereto, or any subsequent enactment which supersedes such Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall certify the date which he determines is the earliest date that such plant or installation will be able to burn coal in compliance with all applicable emission limitations under the implementation plan.

(3) Any certification required under section 2 of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 or any amendment thereto, or any subsequent enactment which supersedes such Act, or under this subsection may be provided in an order under section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act.

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UNREGULATED POLLUTANTS

SEC. 120. (a)

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(b) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall conduct a study, in conjunction with other appropriate agencies, concerning the effect on the public health and welfare of sulfates, radioactive pollutants, cadmium, arsenic, and polycyclic organic matter which are present or may reasonably be anticipated to occur in the ambient air. Such study shall include a thorough investigation of how sulfates are formed and how to protect public health and welfare from the injurious effects, if any, of sulfates, cadmium, arsenic, and polycyclic organic matter.

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PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION

SEC. 127. (a)

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(b) Within one year from the date of enactment of this Act the Administrator shall report to the Congress on the consequences of that portion of the definition of "major emitting facility" under the amendment made by subsection (a) which applies to facilities with the potential to emit two hundred and fifty tons per year or more. Such study shall examine the type of facilities covered, the air

quality benefits of including such facilities, and the administrative aspect of regulating such facilities.

(c) Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall publish a guidance document to assist the States in carrying out their functions under part C of title I of the Clean Air Act (relating to prevention of significant deterioration of air quality) with respect to pollutants, other than sulfur oxides and particulates, for which national ambient air quality standards are promulgated. Such guidance document shall include recommended strategies for controlling photochemical oxidants on a regional or multistate basis for the purpose of implementing part C and section 110 of such Act.

(d) Not later than two years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall complete a study and report to the Congress on the progress made in carrying out part C of title I of the Clean Air Act (relating to significant deterioration of air quality) and the problems associated with carrying out such section, including recommendations for legislative changes necessary to implement strategies for controlling photochemical oxidants on a regional or multistate basis.

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NONATTAINMENT AREAS

SEC. 129. (a)(1) Before July 1, 1979, the interpretative regulation of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency published in 41 Federal Register 55524-30, December 21, 1976, as may be modified by rule of the Administrator, shall apply except that the baseline to be used for determination of appropriate emission offsets under such regulation shall be the applicable implementation plan of the State in effect at the time of application for a permit by a proposed major stationary source (within the meaning of section 302 of the Clean Air Act).

(2) Before July 1, 1979, the requirements of the regulation referred to in paragraph (1) shall be waived by the Administrator with respect to any pollutant if he determines that the State has—

(A) an inventory of emissions of the applicable pollutant for each nonattainment area (as defined in section 171 of the Clean Air Act) that identifies the type, quantity, and source of such pollutant so as to provide information sufficient to demonstrate that the requirements of subparagraph (C) are being met;

(B) an enforceable permit program which—

(i) requires new or modified major stationary sources to meet emission limitations at least as stringent as required under the permit requirements referred to in paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 173 of the Clean Air Act (relating to lowest achievable emission rate and compliance by other sources) and which assures compliance with the annual reduction requirements of subparagraph (C); and

(ii) requires existing sources to achieve such reduction in emissions in the area as may be obtained through the adoption, at a minimum of reasonably available control technology, and

(C) a program which requires reductions in total allowable emissions in the area prior to July 1, 1979, so as to provide for the same level of emission reduction as would result from the application of the regulation referred to in paragraph (1).

The Administrator shall terminate such waiver if in his judgment the reduction in emissions actually being attained is less than the reduction on which the waiver was conditioned pursuant to subparagraph (C), or if the Administrator determines that the State is no longer in compliance with any requirement of this paragraph. Upon application by the State, the Administrator may reinstate a waiver terminated under the preceding sentence if he is satisfied that such State is in compliance with all requirements of this subsection.

(3) Operating permits may be issued to those applicants who were properly granted construction permits, in accordance with the law and applicable regulations in effect at the time granted, for construction of a new or modified source in areas exceeding national primary air quality standards on or before the date of the enactment of this Act if such construction permits were granted prior to the date of the enactment of this Act and the person issued any such permit is able to demonstrate that the emissions from the source will be within the limitations set forth in such construction permit.

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(c) Notwithstanding the requirements of section 406(d)(2) (relating to date required for submission of certain implementation plan revisions), for purposes of section 110(a)(2) of the Clean Air Act each State in which there is any nonattainment area (as defined in part D of title I of the Clean Air Act) shall adopt and submit an implementation plan revision which meets the requirements of section 110(a)(2)(I) and part D of title I of the Clean Air Act not later than January 1, 1979. In the case of any State for which a plan revision adopted and submitted before such date has made the demonstration required under section 172(a)(2) of the Clean Air Act (respecting impossibility of attainment before 1983), such State shall adopt and submit to the Administrator a plan revision before July 1, 1982, which meets the requirements of section 172 (b) and (c) of such Act.

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STUDIES AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES FOR OXIDES OF NITROGEN

SEC. 202. (a) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall conduct a study of the public health implications of attaining an emission standard on oxides of nitrogen from light duty vehicles of 0.4 gram per vehicle mile, the cost and technological capability of attaining such standard, and the need for such a standard to protect public health or welfare. The Administrator shall submit a report of such study to the Congress, together with recommendations not later than July 1, 1980.

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STUDY AND REPORT OF FUEL CONSUMPTION

SEC. 203. Following each motor vehicle model year, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall report to the Congress respecting the motor vehicle fuel consumption associated with the standards applicable for the immediately preceding model year.

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CARBON MONOXIDE INTRUSION INTO SUSTAINED USE VEHICLES

SEC. 226. (a) The Administrator, in conjunction with the Secretary of Transportation, shall study the problem of carbon monoxide intrusion into the passenger area of sustained-use motor vehicles. Such study shall include an analysis of the sources and levels of carbon monoxide in the passenger area of such vehicles and a determination of the effects of carbon monoxide upon the passengers. The study shall also review available methods of monitoring and testing for the presence of carbon monoxide and shall analyze the cost and effectiveness of alternative methods of monitoring and testing. The study shall analyze the cost and effectiveness of alternative strategies for attaining and maintaining acceptable levels of carbon monoxide in the passenger area of such vehicles. Within one year the Administrator shall report to the Congress respecting the results of such study.

(b) For the purpose of this section, the term "sustained-use motor vehicle" means any diesel or gasoline fueled motor vehicle (whether light or heavy duty) which, as determined by the Administrator (in conjunction with the Secretary), is normally used and occupied for a sustained, continuous, or extensive period of time, including buses, taxicabs, and police vehicles.

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INTERAGENCY COOPERATION ON PREVENTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL
CANCER AND HEART AND LUNG DISEASE

SEC. 402. (a) Not later than three months after the date of enactment of this section, there shall be established a Task Force on Environmental Cancer and Heart and Lung Disease (hereinafter referred to as the "Task Force"). The Task Force shall include representatives of the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Cancer Institute, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, and the National Institute on Environmental Health Sciences, and shall be chaired by the Administrator (or his delegate).

(b) The Task Force shall—

(1) recommend a comprehensive research program to determine and quantify the relationship between environmental pollution and human cancer and heart and lung disease;

(2) recommend comprehensive strategies to reduce or eliminate the risks of cancer or such other diseases associated with environmental pollution;

(3) recommend research and such other measures as may be appropriate to prevent or reduce the incidence of environmentally related cancer and heart and lung diseases;

(4) coordinate research by, and stimulate cooperation between, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and such other agencies as may be appropriate to prevent environmentally related cancer and heart and lung diseases; and

(5) report to Congress, not later than one year after the date of enactment of this section and annually thereafter, on the problems and progress in carrying out this section.

STUDIES

SEC. 403. (a) Not later than eighteen months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in cooperation with the National Academy of Sciences, shall study and report to Congress on (1) the relationship between the size, weight, and chemical composition of suspended particulate matter and the nature and degree of the endangerment to public health or welfare presented by such particulate matter (especially with respect to fine particulate matter) and (2) the availability of technology for controlling such particulate matter.

(b) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall conduct a study and report to the Congress not later than January 1, 1979, on the effects on public health and welfare of odors or odorous emissions, the sources of such emissions, the technology or other measures available for control of such emissions and the costs of such technology or measures, and the costs and benefits of alternative measures or strategies to abate such emissions. Such report shall include an evaluation of whether air quality criteria or national ambient air quality standards should be published under the Clean Air Act for odors, and what other strategies or authorities under the Clean Air Act are available or appropriate for abating such emissions.

(c)(1) Not later than twelve months after the date of enactment of this Act the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall publish throughout the United States a list of all known chemical contaminants resulting from environmental pollution which have been found in human tissue including blood, urine, breast milk, and all other human tissue. Such list shall be prepared for the United States and shall indicate the approximate number of cases, the range of levels found, and the mean levels found.

(2) Not later than eighteen months after the date of enactment of this Act the Administrator shall publish in the same manner an explanation of what is known about the manner in which the chemicals described in paragraph (1) entered the environment and thereafter human tissue.

(3) The Administrator, in consultation with National Institutes of Health, the National Center for Health Statistics, and the National Center for Health Services Research and Development, shall, if feasible, conduct an epidemiological study to demonstrate the relationship between levels of chemicals in the environment and in

human tissue. Such study shall be made in appropriate regions or areas of the United States in order to determine any different results in such regions or areas. The results of such study shall, as soon as practicable, be reported to the appropriate committee of the Congress.

(d) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall conduct a study of air quality in various areas throughout the country including the gulf coast region. Such study shall include analysis of liquid and solid aerosols and other fine particulate matter and the contribution of such substances to visibility and public health problems in such areas. For the purposes of this study, the Administrator shall use environmental health experts from the National Institutes of Health and other outside agencies and organizations.

(e)(1) The Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Administrator, shall conduct a study of potential dislocation of employees due to implementation of laws administered by the Administrator. Such study shall estimate the number of employees so affected, identify existing sources of assistance available to such employees, assess the adequacy of such assistance, and recommend additional adjustment measures, if justified.

(2) The Secretary shall submit to Congress the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1) not more than one year after the date of enactment of this section.

(f) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall undertake to enter into appropriate arrangements with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct continuing comprehensive studies and investigations of the effects on public health and welfare of emissions subject to section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act (including sulfur compounds) and the technological feasibility of meeting emission standards required to be prescribed by the Administrator by section 202(b) of such Act. The Administrator shall report to the Congress within six months of the date of enactment of this section and each year thereafter regarding the status of the contractual arrangements and conditions necessary to implement this paragraph.

(g) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall conduct a study and report to Congress by the date one year after the date of the enactment of this section, on the emission of sulfur-bearing compounds from motor vehicles and motor vehicle engines and aircraft engines. Such study and report shall include but not be limited to a review of the effects of such emissions on public health and welfare and an analysis of the costs and benefits of alternatives to reduce or eliminate such emissions (including desulfurization of fuel, short-term allocation of low sulfur crude oil, technological devices used in conjunction with current engine technologies, alternative engine technologies, and other methods) as may be required to achieve any proposed or promulgated emission standards for sulfur compounds.

RAILROAD EMISSION STUDY

SEC. 404. (a) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall conduct a study and investigation of emissions of

air pollutants from railroad locomotives, locomotive engines, and secondary power sources on railroad rolling stock, in order to determine—

(1) the extent to which such emissions affect air quality in air quality control regions throughout the United States,

(2) the technological feasibility and the current state of technology for controlling such emissions, and

(3) the status and effect of current and proposed State and local regulations affecting such emissions.

(b) Within one hundred and eighty days after commencing such study and investigation, the Administrator shall submit a report of such study and investigation, together with recommendations for appropriate legislation, to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

STUDY AND REPORT CONCERNING ECONOMIC APPROACHES TO
CONTROLLING AIR POLLUTION

SEC. 405. (a) The Administrator, in conjunction with the Council of Economic Advisors (hereinafter in this section referred to as “the Council”), shall undertake a study and assessment of economic measures for the control of air pollution which could—

(1) strengthen the effectiveness of existing methods of controlling air pollution,

(2) provide incentives to abate air pollution to a greater degree than is required by existing provisions of the Clean Air Act (and regulations thereunder), and

(3) serve as the primary incentive for controlling air pollution problems not addressed by any provision of the Clean Air Act (or any regulation thereunder).

(b) The study of measures referred to in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) shall concentrate on (1) identification of air pollution problems for which existing methods of control are not effective because of economic incentives to delay compliance and (2) formulation of economic measures which could be taken with respect to each such air pollution problem which would provide an incentive to comply without interfering with such existing methods of control.

(c) The study of measures referred to in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) shall concentrate on (1) identification of air pollution problems for which existing methods of control may not be sufficiently extensive to achieve all desired environmental goals and (2) formulation of economic measures for each such air pollution problem which would provide additional incentives to reduce air pollution without—

(A) interfering with the effectiveness of existing methods of control, or

(B) creating problems similar to those which prevent alternative regulatory methods from being used to reach such environmental goals.

(d) The study of the measures referred to in paragraph (3) of subsection (a) shall concentrate on (1) identification of air pollution

problems for which no existing methods of control exist, (2) formulation of economic measures to reduce such pollution, and (3) comparison of the environmental and economic impacts of the economic measures with those of any alternative regulatory methods which can be identified.

(e) In conducting the study under this section, a preliminary screening should be made of the problems referred to in subsections (b)(1), (c)(1), and (d)(1) and economic measures should be formulated under subsections (b)(2), (c)(2), and (d)(2) in the most promising cases, giving special attention to structural and administrative problems. In formulating any such measure which provides for a charge, the appropriate level of the charge should be determined, if possible, and the environmental and economic impacts should be identified.

(f) Within one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall complete a study and report to the Congress on the advantages and disadvantages (including an analysis of the feasibility) of establishing a system of penalties for stationary sources on emissions of oxides of nitrogen and make recommendations regarding the establishment of such a system. Such study shall determine if such a system will effectively encourage the development of more effective systems and technologies for control of emissions of oxides of nitrogen for new major emitting facilities, or existing major emitting facilities, or both. In any case in which a proposed penalty system is recommended by the Administrator, the report should include—

(1) a recommendation respecting the appropriate period during which such system of penalties should apply, and the appropriate termination date or dates for such system, if any, taking into account—

(A) the time at which adequate technology may reasonably be anticipated to be available to control oxides of nitrogen for that category of facilities,

(B) the degree to which such technology can be expected to be used on such facilities, and

(C) the Administrator's authorities to require the use of such technology, and

(2) recommendations respecting the compilation of records by facilities subject to such penalties for purposes of determining the applicability and amount of such penalty.

(g) Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this section, the Administrator and the Council shall conclude the study and assessment under this section and submit a report containing the results thereof to the President and to the Congress. Interim reports on specific pollution problems and solutions recommended shall be made available to the President and the Congress by the Administrator whenever available.

SAVING PROVISION; EFFECTIVE DATES

SEC. 406. (a) No suit, action, or other proceeding lawfully commenced by or against the Administrator or any other officer or employee of the United States in his official capacity or in relation to the discharge of his official duties under the Clean Air Act, as in

effect immediately prior to the date of enactment of this Act shall abate by reason of the taking effect of the amendments made by this Act. The court may, on its own motion or that of any party made at any time within twelve months after such taking effect, allow the same to be maintained by or against the Administrator or such officer or employee.

(b) All rules, regulations, orders, determinations, contracts, certifications, authorizations, delegations, or other actions duly issued, made, or taken by or pursuant to the Clean Air Act as in effect immediately prior to the date of enactment of this Act, and pertaining to any functions, powers, requirements, and duties under the Clean Air Act, as in effect immediately prior to the date of enactment of this Act, and not suspended by the Administrator or the courts, shall continue in full force and effect after the date of enactment of this Act until modified or rescinded in accordance with the Clean Air Act as amended by this Act.

(c) Nothing in this Act nor any action taken pursuant to this Act shall in any way affect any requirement of an approved implementation plan in effect under section 110 of the Clean Air Act or any other provision of the Act in effect under the Clean Air Act before the date of enactment of this section until modified or rescinded in accordance with the Clean Air Act as amended by this Act.

(d)(1) Except as otherwise expressly provided, the amendments made by this Act shall be effective on date of enactment.

(2) Except as otherwise expressly provided, each State required to revise its applicable implementation plan by reason of any amendment made by this Act shall adopt and submit to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Administration such plan revision before the later of the date—

(A) one year after the date of enactment of this Act, or

(B) nine months after the date of promulgation by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Administration of any regulations under an amendment made by this Act which are necessary for the approval of such plan revision.